

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-33. (canceled)

34. (New) An ultrasonic medical treatment device comprising:

a casing;

an elongate probe mounted to and extending from said casing, said probe having an axis and a free end serving as an operative tip;

a transducer assembly mounted to said casing and operatively connected to said probe for generating vibrations of at least one ultrasonic frequency in said probe;

a sheath surrounding said probe; and

at least one electrode member attached to said sheath, said electrode member being connectable to an RF voltage source,

said electrode member being one of at least two electrode members, at least one of said electrode members being hingedly secured to said sheath, further comprising at least one actuator operatively connected to said one of said electrode members for pivoting said one of said electrode members towards the other of said electrode members.

35. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 34 wherein said sheath is formed with a plurality of pairs of parallel slots defining respective hinged fingers, said electrode members being mounted to respective ones of said hinged fingers.

36. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 35 wherein said electrode members are at least partially embedded in said fingers.

37. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 34 wherein said actuator is a manually engageable protuberance.

38. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 34 where the other of said electrode members is said probe.

39. (New) An ultrasonic medical treatment device comprising:
a casing;
an elongate probe mounted to and extending from said casing, said probe having an axis and a free end serving as an operative tip;
a transducer assembly mounted to said casing and operatively connected to said probe for generating vibrations of at least one ultrasonic frequency in said probe; and
at least one electrode member connectable to an RF voltage source, said electrode member being mounted at least indirectly to said casing so as to permit relative transverse motion of a distal end of said electrode member relative to said probe, thereby permitting an adjustment in the distance between the distal end of said electrode member and an axis of said probe.

40. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 39, further comprising a sheath surrounding said probe, said sheath being connected to said casing, said electrode

member being hingedly secured to said sheath, further comprising at least one actuator operatively connected to said electrode member for pivoting said electrode member towards said axis of said probe.

41. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 40 wherein said sheath is formed with at least one pair of parallel slots defining a hinged finger, said electrode member being mounted to said hinged finger.

42. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 41 wherein said electrode member is at least partially embedded in said finger.

43. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 40 wherein said actuator is a manual protuberance.

44. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 43 wherein said sheath is longitudinally shiftable relative to said probe, said protuberance being operatively connected to said sheath to enable a sliding of said sheath alternately in opposite directions along said axis of said probe.

45. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 39, further comprising a sheath at least partially surrounding said probe, said sheath being connected to said casing, said electrode member being substantially embedded in said sheath and having an exposed tip proximate to said operative tip of said probe.

46. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 39 wherein said probe is also an electrode operative with said electrode member to perform bipolar electrocautery.

47. (New) The medical treatment device defined in claim 39 wherein said electrode member is a monopolar electrode member connectable to an RF power supply for the performance of monopolar electrocautery.

48. (New) A method for conducting a medical surgical procedure, comprising:
providing an ultrasonic medical treatment device having an elongate probe with an axis and a free end serving as an operative tip, a transducer assembly being operatively connected to said probe, at least one electrode member being mounted at least indirectly to said probe;

inserting a distal end portion of said probe into a patient;

thereafter energizing said transducer assembly to generate a standing wave in said probe, said standing wave having a wavelength corresponding to an ultrasonic frequency;

during the energizing of said transducer assembly, ablating tissues of the patient at said operative tip of said probe;

moving said electrode member relative to said probe;

connecting said electrode member to an RF voltage source; and

thereafter cauterizing tissues in the patient owing to the conduction of current via an exposed portion of said electrode member.

49. (New) The method defined in claim 48 wherein the moving of said electrode member includes translating said sheath in parallel to said probe.

50. (New) The method defined in claim 48 wherein the moving of said electrode member includes moving said electrode member in a transverse direction relative to said probe, thereby changing a distance between an exposed portion of said electrode member and the axis of said probe.

51. (New) The method defined in claim 48, further comprising using said electrode member to ablate tissues of the patient.